



NEWS RELEASE

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Disaster Relief Unemployment Benefits available to Hoosiers impacted by severe weather, floods

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Today the Indiana Department of Workforce Development announced an additional 25 Indiana counties impacted by the severe winter storms and flooding have been declared disaster areas and are eligible to receive additional assistance.

Following the President's recent disaster declaration, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development will offer Disaster Unemployment Assistance Benefits to Hoosier farmers, some self-employed and other workers whose jobs were affected by weather related events.

Workers in Adams, Allen, Bartholomew, Dearborn, Decatur, DeKalb, Elkhart, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Jasper, Kosciusko, Lake, LaPorte, Marshall, Newton, Noble, Porter, Pulaski, Ripley, St. Joseph, Starke, Union, Wayne, and Whitley counties are now eligible to receive additional unemployment benefits.

Previous Indiana counties who have been declared disaster areas and are currently receiving additional unemployment benefits include Benton, Blackford, Boone, Brown, Carroll, Cass, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Crawford, Daviess, Delaware, Dubois, Floyd, Fountain, Gibson, Grant, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Harrison, Hendricks, Henry, Howard, Huntington, Jackson, Jay, Jennings, Johnson, Knox, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Martin, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Orange, Owen, Parke, Pike, Posey, Putnam, Randolph, Rush, Scott, Shelby, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Vanderburgh, Vermillion, Vigo, Wabash, Warren, Warrick, Washington, Wells and White counties.

Of Indiana's 92 counties, 85 have been declared disaster areas. Commenting on this announcement, Department of Workforce Development Commissioner Ron Stiver stated, "I hope this assistance will ease some of the struggles Hoosier families are facing due to the devastating weather conditions and provides additional support as they return to work."

Those individuals interested in applying for benefits should visit their local WorkOne or WorkOne Express center, or call 1-888-WorkOne for more information before February 26, 2005. Applicants will need a social security number, the name, address and phone number of their last employer, the dates they worked and a photo ID. Self-employed applicants should also supply information on earning for the previous federal tax year. Benefits will be determined based on the applicant's income.

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